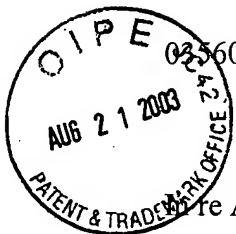


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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Application of:

Hiroshi Echizen, et al.

Application No.: 10/050,787

Filed: January 18, 2002

For: SPUTTERING METHOD AND
SPUTTERING APPARATUS

Examiner: Versteeg, Steven H.

Group Art Unit: 1753

August 18, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

5/A
WM.
8/27/03

AMENDMENT AND PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

a) Introductory Comments:

Applicants petition to extend the time for response to the Office Action dated March 18, 2003 for two (2) months to August 18, 2003. A check in the amount of \$410.00 for payment of the extension fee is enclosed. Please charge any additional fee required for the extension, and credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account 06-1205.

In response to the Office Action dated March 18, 2003, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments and comments into the file of the above-identified application.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

August 18, 2003
(Date of Deposit)

PETER SAXON (24947)

(Name of Attorney for Applicant)

Peter Saxon

Signature

August 18, 2003
Date of Signature

08/22/2003 MAHMED1 00000062 10050787

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